

To: Faulk, Libby[Faulk.Libby@epa.gov]
From: McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa
Sent: Sat 8/8/2015 1:04:09 PM
Subject: RE: Sampling process

Yes – Joan blessed.

Lisa McClain-Vanderpool

Public Affairs Specialist/Media Officer

Office of Communications and Public Involvement

US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8

1595 Wynkoop Street

Denver, Colorado 80202

Office 303.312.6077

Cell 303.501.4027

From: Faulk, Libby
Sent: Friday, August 07, 2015 6:29 PM
To: McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa
Subject: FW: Sampling process

Lisa do you know if this is public information.

Libby Faulk, Program Manager

Public Affairs and Community Involvement

US EPA, Region 8

1595 Wynkoop Street

Denver, CO 80202

faulk.libby@epa.gov

303-312-6083

From: Smith, Paula
Sent: Friday, August 07, 2015 2:08 PM
To: Card, Joan
Cc: McGrath, Shaun; Ostrander, David; Faulk, Libby; McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa
Subject: Re: Sampling process

Is this going on OSC.org?

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 7, 2015, at 1:59 PM, Card, Joan <Card.Joan@epa.gov> wrote:

Sampling Process

Sampling crews have been and will be sampling locations from Silverton (and above Silverton, near the Mine), all the way to the Colorado border, a distance of approximately 60 miles. Crews will also sample in New Mexico. The distance between sampling locations involves driving time, especially where sampling locations on the river are in remote, difficult to access locations.

Samples are taken from the river using a hand pump or peristaltic pump. Samples must be filtered. Once at the location, collecting the sample may take ½ hour or more.

The standard procedure for analyzing for metals requires a 16 hour hold time with the preservative. EPA will be modifying this procedure to reduce or eliminate this hold time.

The samples must then be transported to a laboratory, either hand-delivered or shipped. The turnaround time for laboratories is different depending on the number of personnel available and number of instruments available. Small labs may only be able to guarantee a 24-48 hour turnaround time. Medium and large capacity labs will be able to provide much faster turnaround times and sometimes even same day results. EPA is currently using a

local laboratory in Durango; which has been extremely cooperative and plans to work through the weekend for this project; however, it is a small capacity lab and will likely not be able to process the high volume of samples anticipated to be taken. EPA is exploring options for procuring another lab, which will involve driving or shipping samples for delivery.

The first round of 19 samples collected the evening of the spill and morning following were immediately driven to the EPA laboratory in Golden and prepped for analysis. Those lab results should be available shortly.

Joyce Ackerman

On-Scene Coordinator and START P.O.

U.S. EPA Region 8

1595 Wynkoop Street

Denver, CO 80202

(303) 312-6822